

09/28440

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Commissioner
US Department of Commerce
United States Patent and Trademark
Office, PCT
2011 South Clark Place Room
CP2/5C24
Arlington, VA 22202
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE
in its capacity as elected Office

| | |
|---|---|
| Date of mailing (day/month/year) 07 March 2001 (07.03.01) | |
| International application No. PCT/EP00/05980 | Applicant's or agent's file reference LP 1852 PCR |
| International filing date (day/month/year) 27 June 2000 (27.06.00) | Priority date (day/month/year) 29 June 1999 (29.06.99) |
| Applicant BILANDŽIC, Genoveva et al | |

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:
17 January 2001 (17.01.01)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was
☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

| | |
|---|---|
| The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35 | Authorized officer Olivia TEFY Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38 |
|---|---|

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING
OF A CHANGE(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

RIEGLER, Norbert, Hermann
Lonza AG
P.O. Box
CH-4002 Basel
SUISSEDate of mailing (day/month/year)
01 October 2001 (01.10.01)Applicant's or agent's file reference
LP 1852 PCR

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.
PCT/EP00/05980International filing date (day/month/year)
27 June 2000 (27.06.00)

1. The following indications appeared on record concerning:

☒ the applicant ☐ the inventor ☐ the agent ☐ the common representative

Name and Address

ALUSUISSE MARTINSWERK GMBH
Kölner Strasse 110
D-50127 Bergheim
Germany

State of Nationality

DE

State of Residence

DE

Telephone No.

Facsimile No.

Teleprinter No. ,

2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning:

☐ the person ☒ the name ☐ the address ☐ the nationality ☐ the residence

Name and Address

MARTINSWERK GMBH
Kölner Strasse 110
D-50127 Bergheim
Germany

State of Nationality

DE

State of Residence

DE

Telephone No.

Facsimile No.

Teleprinter No.

3. Further observations, if necessary:

4. A copy of this notification has been sent to:

☒ the receiving Office ☐ the designated Offices concerned
☐ the International Searching Authority ☒ the elected Offices concerned
☒ the International Preliminary Examining Authority ☐ other:The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Dominique DELMAS

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

10/019022

PCT

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING
OF A CHANGE(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

To:

RIEGLER, Norbert, Hermann
Lonza AG
P.O. Box
CH-4002 Basel
SUISSE

| | |
|--|---|
| Date of mailing (day/month/year) 30 January 2002 (30.01.02) | IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference LP 1852 PCR | |
| International application No. PCT/EP00/05980 | International filing date (day/month/year) 27 June 2000 (27.06.00) |

1. The following indications appeared on record concerning:

☒ the applicant

 ☐ the inventor

 ☐ the agent

 ☐ the common representative

Name and Address

MARTINSWERK GMBH
Kölner Strasse 110
D-50127 Bergheim
Germany

State of Nationality

DE

State of Residence

DE

Telephone No.

Facsimile No.

Teleprinter No.

2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning:

☒ the person

 ☒ the name

 ☒ the address

 ☒ the nationality

 ☒ the residence

Name and Address

ALBEMARLE CORPORATION
451 Florida Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70801-1765
United States of America

State of Nationality

US

State of Residence

US

Telephone No.

Facsimile No.

Teleprinter No.

3. Further observations, if necessary:

4. A copy of this notification has been sent to:

☒ the receiving Office

 ☐ the designated Offices concerned
☐ the International Searching Authority

 ☒ the elected Offices concerned
☐ the International Preliminary Examining Authority

 ☐ other:
The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

Authorized officer

Dominique DELMAS

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

WO 01/00529
PCT/EP00/05980

PCT Ent. 2001

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

NOTICE INFORMING THE APPLICANT OF THE COMMUNICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION TO THE DESIGNATED OFFICES

(PCT Rule 47.1(c), first sentence)

To:

RIEGLER, Norbert, Hermann
Lonza AG
P.O. Box
CH-4002 Basel
SUISSE

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Date of mailing (day/month/year) 04 January 2001 (04.01.01) | | IMPORTANT NOTICE | |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference LP 1852 PCR | | | |
| International application No. PCT/EP00/05980 | International filing date (day/month/year) 27 June 2000 (27.06.00) | Priority date (day/month/year) 29 June 1999 (29.06.99) | |
| Applicant ALUSUISSE MARTINSWERK GMBH et al | | | |

1. Notice is hereby given that the International Bureau has communicated, as provided in Article 20, the international application to the following designated Offices on the date indicated above as the date of mailing of this Notice:
 AG,AU,BZ,DZ,KP,KR,MZ,US

In accordance with Rule 47.1(c), third sentence, those Offices will accept the present Notice as conclusive evidence that the communication of the international application has duly taken place on the date of mailing indicated above and no copy of the international application is required to be furnished by the applicant to the designated Office(s).

2. The following designated Offices have waived the requirement for such a communication at this time:
 AE,AL,AM,AP,AT,AZ,BA,BB,BG,BR,BY,CA,CH,CN,CR,CU,CZ,DE,DK,DM,EA,EE,EP,ES,FI,GB,GD,GE,GH,GM,HR,HU,ID,IL,IN,IS,JP,KE,KG,KZ,LC,LK,LR,LS,LT,LU,LV,MA,MD,MG,MK,MN,MW,MX,NO,NZ,OA,PL,PT,RO,RU,SD,SE,SG,SI,SK,SL,TJ,TM,TR,TT,TZ,UA,UG,UZ,VN,YU,ZA,ZW
 The communication will be made to those Offices only upon their request. Furthermore, those Offices do not require the applicant to furnish a copy of the international application (Rule 49.1(a-bis)).

3. Enclosed with this Notice is a copy of the international application as published by the International Bureau on 04 January 2001 (04.01.01) under No. WO 01/00529

REMINDER REGARDING CHAPTER II (Article 31(2)(a) and Rule 54.2)

If the applicant wishes to postpone entry into the national phase until 30 months (or later in some Offices) from the priority date, a **demand for international preliminary examination** must be filed with the competent International Preliminary Examining Authority before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date.

It is the applicant's sole responsibility to monitor the 19-month time limit.

Note that only an applicant who is a national or resident of a PCT Contracting State which is bound by Chapter II has the right to file a demand for international preliminary examination.

REMINDER REGARDING ENTRY INTO THE NATIONAL PHASE (Article 22 or 39(1))

If the applicant wishes to proceed with the international application in the **national phase**, he must, within 20 months or 30 months, or later in some Offices, perform the acts referred to therein before each designated or elected Office.

For further important information on the time limits and acts to be performed for entering the national phase, see the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 (Notification of Receipt of Record Copy) and Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

| | |
|--|---|
| The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35 | Authorized officer <p style="text-align: center;">J. Zahra</p> Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38 |
|--|---|

Continuation of Form PCT/IB/308

NOTICE INFORMING THE APPLICANT OF THE COMMUNICATION OF
THE INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION TO THE DESIGNATED OFFICES

| | |
|--|---|
| Date of mailing (day/month/year) 04 January 2001 (04.01.01) | IMPORTANT NOTICE |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference LP 1852 PCR | International application No. PCT/EP00/05980 |

The applicant is hereby notified that, at the time of establishment of this Notice, the time limit under Rule 46.1 for making amendments under Article 19 has not yet expired and the International Bureau had received neither such amendments nor a declaration that the applicant does not wish to make amendments.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

EINGEGANGEN

15. März 2001

PCT

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

INFORMATION CONCERNING ELECTED
OFFICES NOTIFIED OF THEIR ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.3)

RIEGLER, Norbert, Hermann
Lonza AG
P.O. Box
CH-4002 Basel
SUISSE

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| Date of mailing (day/month/year) 07 March 2001 (07.03.01) | | IMPORTANT INFORMATION | |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference LP 1852 PCR | | | |
| International application No. PCT/EP00/05980 | International filing date (day/month/year) 27 June 2000 (27.06.00) | Priority date (day/month/year) 29 June 1999 (29.06.99) | |
| Applicant ALUSUISSE MARTINSWERK GMBH et al | | | |

1. The applicant is hereby informed that the International Bureau has, according to Article 31(7), notified each of the following Offices of its election:

AP : GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW

EP : AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE

National : AU, BG, CA, CN, CZ, DE, IL, JP, KP, KR, MN, NO, NZ, PL, RO, RU, SE, SK, US

2. The following Offices have waived the requirement for the notification of their election; the notification will be sent to them by the International Bureau only upon their request:

EA : AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM

OA : BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG

National : AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AZ, BA, BB, BR, BY, BZ, CH, CR, CU, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB,
GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IN, IS, KE, KG, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MW,
MX, MZ, PT, SD, SG, SI, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW

3. The applicant is reminded that he must enter the "national phase" **before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date** before each of the Offices listed above. This must be done by paying the national fee(s) and furnishing, if prescribed, a translation of the international application (Article 39(1)(a)), as well as, where applicable, by furnishing a translation of any annexes of the international preliminary examination report (Article 36(3)(b) and Rule 74.1).

Some offices have fixed time limits expiring later than the above-mentioned time limit. For detailed information about the applicable time limits and the acts to be performed upon entry into the national phase before a particular Office, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The entry into the European regional phase is postponed **until 31 months from the priority date** for all States designated for the purposes of obtaining a European patent.

| | |
|--|---|
| The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35 | Authorized officer: Olivia TEFY Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38 |
|--|---|

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING
OF A CHANGE(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

RIEGLER, Norbert, Hermann
Lonza AG
P.O. Box
CH-4002 Basel
SUISSE

EINGEGANGEN

10. Okt. 2001

Erl. ... WR

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

01 October 2001 (01.10.01)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

LP 1852 PCR

International application No.

PCT/EP00/05980

International filing date (day/month/year)

27 June 2000 (27.06.00)

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

1. The following indications appeared on record concerning:

☒ the applicant ☐ the inventor ☐ the agent ☐ the common representative

Name and Address

ALUSUISSE MARTINSWERK GMBH
Kölner Strasse 110
D-50127 Bergheim
Germany

State of Nationality

DE

State of Residence

DE

Telephone No.

Facsimile No.

Teleprinter No.

2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning:

☐ the person ☒ the name ☐ the address ☐ the nationality ☐ the residence

Name and Address

MARTINSWERK GMBH
Kölner Strasse 110
D-50127 Bergheim
Germany

State of Nationality

DE

State of Residence

DE

Telephone No.

Facsimile No.

Teleprinter No.

3. Further observations, if necessary:

4. A copy of this notification has been sent to:

☒ the receiving Office ☐ the designated Offices concerned
☐ the International Searching Authority ☒ the elected Offices concerned
☒ the International Preliminary Examining Authority ☐ other:The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Dominique DELMAS

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference LP 1852 PCR | FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | |
| International application No. PCT/EP00/05980 | International filing date (day/month/year) 27/06/2000 | Priority date (day/month/year) 29/06/1999 |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C01F7/14 | | |
| Applicant ALUSUISSE MARTINSWERK GMBH | | |

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.



2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

- ☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 2 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

| | |
|---|---|
| Date of submission of the demand 17/01/2001 | Date of completion of this report 12.10.2001 |
| Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465 | Authorized officer Grundke, H Telephone No. +49 89 2399 8564  |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP00/05980

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, pages:

1-10 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-9 as received on 23/07/2001 with letter of 23/07/2001

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/EP00/05980

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Novelty (N) | Yes: Claims 1-9 |
| | No: Claims |
| Inventive step (IS) | Yes: Claims 1-9 |
| | No: Claims |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Yes: Claims 1-9 |
| | No: Claims |

2. Citations and explanations -
see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/EP00/05980

Item V:

Reference is made to the following document/s/:

D1: A.R. GERSON ET AL.: 'Influence of solution constituents, solution conditioning and seeding on the crystalline phase of aluminium hydroxide using in situ X-ray diffraction' JOURNAL OF CRYSTAL GROWTH, vol. 160, no. 3,4, 1996, pages 346-354, XP002151672

D2: US-A-4 847 064 (PEARSON ALAN) 11 July 1989 (1989-07-11)

Though production of gibbsite type aluminium hydroxides via bayerite crystal seeding is known from documents D1 and D2, the prior art has not recognized the significance of the influence of a selected grain diameter range of the seed crystals in order to improve in aluminium hydroxide the rheological properties when blended with synthetic resins. The present claimed invention achieves this improvement in a novel route, which is not obvious from the cited art.

Claims

1. A process for the preparation of gibbsite type aluminium hydroxides, wherein a liquor
obtained from the Bayer process is seeded with bayerite crystals having a grain
5 diameter in the 50% range (d_{50}) of 1.2 μm to 2.2 μm .

2. The process of claim 1, wherein the molar ratio of Na_2O to Al_2O_3 in the Bayer liquor is
from 1.4:1 to 1.55:1.

10 3. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 2, wherein the bayerite crystals have a
rain diameter in the 10% range (d_{10}) of 0.5 μm to 0.9 μm and in the 90% range (d_{90}) of
3.5 μm to 5.5 μm .

15 4. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the bayerite crystals are added
in an amount of 1 g/l to 3 g/l at a liquor temperature of 50 °C to 70 °C.

20 5. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein after seeding the process
mixture is stirred under precipitation until the molar ratio of Na_2O to Al_2O_3 is in the
range of 2.2:1 to 3.5:1.

25 6. A gibbsite type aluminium hydroxide having a grain diameter in the 50% range (d_{50}) of
1.5 μm to 4.5 μm , in the 10% range (d_{10}) of 0.4 μm to 2.0 μm and in the 90% range
(d_{90}) of 3.0 μm to 9.5 μm , a surface area (according to BET) from 1.0 m^2/g to 4.0 m^2/g
and an aspect ratio from 4:1 to 6:1.

30 7. A mixture of gibbsite type aluminium hydroxides, characterised in that it has a grain
diameter in the 50% range of (d_{50}) 4 to 20 μm and contains a gibbsite type aluminium
hydroxide according to claim 6 or a gibbsite type aluminium hydroxide obtained by a
process according to any one of claims 1 to 5.

8. A synthetic resin containing a gibbsite type aluminium hydroxide according to claim 6 or obtained by a process according to any one of claims 1 to 5.
9. The use of a gibbsite type aluminium hydroxide according to claim 6 or obtained by a process according to any one of claims 1 to 5 as a fire retardant additive in synthetic resins.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference LP 1852 PCT | FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below. | |
| International application No. PCT/EP 00/ 05980 | International filing date (day/month/year) 27/06/2000 | (Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 29/06/1999 |
| Applicant ALUSUISSE MARTINSWERK GMBH | | |

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

☒ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 00/05980

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C01F7/14 C01F7/02 C08K3/22 C09K21/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C01F C08K C09K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data, CHEM ABS Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category ° | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| X | A.R. GERSON ET AL.: "Influence of solution constituents, solution conditioning and seeding on the crystalline phase of aluminium hydroxide using in situ X-ray diffraction" JOURNAL OF CRYSTAL GROWTH, vol. 160, no. 3,4, 1996, pages 346-354, XP002151672 | 1,9 |
| Y | page 348; table 2 --- -/-- | 10,11 |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

1 November 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

15/11/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Zalm, W

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 00/05980

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| Y | DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 199737 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class A14, AN 1997-399664 XP002151673 & JP 09 176367 A (SUMITOMO CHEM CO LTD), 8 July 1997 (1997-07-08) | 10, 11 |
| A | abstract --- | 7, 8 |
| X | SATPATHY B K ET AL: "DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIAL GRADE HYDRATE AND ALUMINA" , PROCEEDINGS OF THE TMS ANNUAL MEETING, US, WARRENDALE, TMS, VOL. MEETING 123, PAGE(S) 147-153 XP000625565 ISBN: 0-87339-264-7 table 3 --- | 7, 8 |
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